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# THE CANADIAN RAILROADER

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## The "Open Shop" Campaign

THE great campaign which is about to be launched by groups of employers in the United States to abolish the "closed shop" and establish the "open shop" is a mask covering an attempt to destroy trade unionism. What is meant by the "open shop" is the "non-union shop." The question of the "closed shop" is not, and never has been, a paramount issue of trade unionism, to be demanded and fought for first and always. Many unions, including all the railway brotherhoods, do not insist on the "closed shop." No great strikes, and comparatively few small ones, have ever taken place in connection with a "closed shop" demand. Ninety-five per cent. of strikes have been based on: increase of low wages (involving the principle of collective bargaining and sometimes recognition of the union); reduction of long hours; improvement of dangerous or unfair conditions of work. More than eighty per cent. of strikes have been caused by refusal of employers to negotiate with employees on these grounds, forcing a trial of economic strength. No weighty attack can be made on unionism on these grounds to-day, for the balance of public opinion is well in favor of the unions.

Another means of attack had to be found. It is found in a camouflaged campaign for the "open shop." Public opinion generally is not informed about the "closed shop" and the "open shop." It might still be bamboozled on these matters. Monkeyshine about the "liberty of the individual," "freedom of contract," and the "autocracy of labor" might still be "put over."

The Council of Protestant Churches of America is already amongst the bamboozled. It agrees with the demand for a "real open shop," meaning, of course, an "open shop" where unionists will be recognized but where non-unionists may also be employed, but, whatever the pious pretences, that is not what is meant by the Boards of Commerce and other organizations clamoring for the "open shop." What the "open shoppers" mean was ably expressed by one of them at a business men's convention in Chicago when he said (and no doubt he got into trouble for being so blunt about it): "Soon the organized workers will be eating out of the employer's hands." The Council of Protestant Churches is unconsciously lending its aid to a destructionist movement. The Catholic Church of the United States has not fallen into the same error, and if the signs mean anything, the Council of Protestant Churches will readjust its declarations before long.

Trade unionism in the United States is girding its loins at present, not so much to protest the introduction of the "open shop" as to defend itself against the concealed menace, the "non-union shop." In years gone by, when the labor movement was much weaker than it is now, it survived pitiless and unscrupulous attacks backed by millions of money and all the resources of publicity and organization that money could buy. It will survive this latest attack, but the end of the fight may find the "progressives" or "radicals" in power in labor's ranks. Conservative leaders of labor are a bit alarmed at the "open shop" crusade. The "progressives" or "radicals" of the labor movement are overjoyed. If in the near future the employers are looking around for the man who threw that awful wrench in the machinery, all they will really have to do will be to take a square look in the mirror.

—Kennedy Crone

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# Trade Unions and Education

(By E. W. WIMBLE, in the *New Highway*, London, Official Organ of the Workers' Educational Association.)

THE ends which a trade union "ticket" may serve are apparently unlimited. As an example of co-operative effort in the provision of benefits commonly desired by the members of a union, it is almost unrivalled. Possessing a trade union ticket, by virtue of a small weekly subscription, the trade unionist has been able to provide for an income during sickness or unemployment. At death relatives have been able to draw on union funds for funeral allowance, and often for larger sums in the nature of life insurance. Strike pay, victimization pay, and free legal advice have usually been covered. His ticket has entitled him to the help of his paid officials in disputes and negotiations with his employers, and it has also provided him with representatives upon local and national bodies. Now comes a new service. The trade union ticket may render to its possessor educational facilities. This latest development, though the newest and probably the best is, however, merely an extension of a principle already established, but it is an extension so complete that it is worthy of considerable attention.

Readers of *The New Highway* will probably remember an article in the first issue descriptive of the formation of a new trade union educational agency, the Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee. This committee, formed at the suggestion of the Confederation of Iron and Steel Trades, in co-operation with the W. E. A., is now completing its first year's work. Already there are signs that it has not only proved itself capable of infinite adaptation to the needs of confederation members, but also of adaptation to the needs of other trade unionists.

Realizing this, and in response to enquiries from other national trade unions, a conference organized under the auspices of the committee was held in the Steel Smelters' Hall on Saturday, October 16th.

The main business of the Conference, which was attended by representatives of several important national trade unions and members of the Central Committee of the W. E. T. U. C., was to receive and discuss an address by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Arthur Pugh, the well-known secretary of the Confederation of Iron and Steel Trades. This address, which will, it is hoped, shortly be available for a wider public, contained not only reference to the formation of the W. E. T. U. C., and a record of its first year's work, but also a discussion of the problem of the provision of educational facilities for trade unionists and definite proposals that the time had now come when the trade union movement should take seriously its educational problem.

As viewed by Mr. Pugh, the educational problem of the trade union movement was not only that of sending a few selected students to labor and other colleges, but the still more important one of providing facilities for the individual trade unionist while following his usual occupation. Part of the problem was that of arousing the interest of trade unionists in education and stimulating the demand for facilities.

Dismissing a policy of separate action, which would have been exceedingly costly and ineffectual, the Confederation decided, said Mr. Pugh, to co-operate with the W. E. A., which already had a long record of service to the trade union movement, in an attempt to build up an educational organization under the control of trade unionists, but capable of utilizing public funds in the provision of educational facilities for trade union members. The State spends millions of money yearly in the provision of educational facilities for the experts required by the professional and industrial world, but the trade union movement, with its six million odd members, had the right to claim equivalent facilities in the expenditure of public money in the training of its members, not only for their particular difficulties as trade union officers and administrators, but also in their capacity as legislators and administrators on public bodies or merely as citizens. He expressed the entire satisfaction of the Confederation with the simplicity and completeness of the scheme drawn up by the W. E. A., and urged that its extension to other trade unions should be considered at the earliest possible moment. The services of the W. E. A. to the working-class movement has been more than that of merely providing educational facilities and setting up machinery; it has been that of stimulating demand and focussing attention on educational problems and of formulating a programme for a national system of education which is admittedly a standard to the world. Yet the W. E. A., has to struggle along insufficiently supported and constantly harassed by financial difficulties.

Following the discussion upon the chairman's address, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"The conference having carefully considered the statement submitted by the chairman of the W. E. T. U. C., is of opinion that the scheme of the committee adopted by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation to meet the educational needs of its members, merits trade union support. The conference therefore urges on all trade unions the importance of assisting the committee in its pioneering efforts by either becoming partners in the scheme or by

such other arrangements as will enable the committee to extend its work to members of trade unions generally."

and—

"This conference is of opinion that the time has arrived when the trade union movement should carefully consider the best and most economical means of meeting the educational needs of its members. It therefore approves the appointment of a committee from the members of the conference to consider and report to the bodies represented at the conference and to the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress."

To put into force the recommendations of resolution No. 2, an invitation has been sent to national trade unions to appoint each a member to serve upon the suggested committee. The enquiry which will be undertaken by this committee is of the utmost importance to the trade union movement, and will cover not only the facilities offered by the state and local education authorities, but the numerous other educational agencies closely connected with the trade union movement, and its report will be awaited with considerable interest. It is one thing to build up powerful organizations, but it is a still more important thing to create a sense of responsibility and a full appreciation of that power in each member of these organizations and the man or men who succeed in creating in the trade union movement a great body of students, will have rendered a service of outstanding value to the whole Labor movement.

**NOT AT INSTANCE  
OF GOVERNMENT**  
The Prime Minister has written to C. Grant MacNeill, Dominion Secretary of the G. W. V. A., regarding the now famous order of D. B. Hanna, director of the Canadian National Railways, forbidding employees to hold office.

Hon. Mr. Meighen was asked to make a statement on the question in view of a strongly worded resolution passed by the Manitoba command of the G. W. V. A., protesting against the dismissal of H. Moore, M. L. A., because at the time of his nomination he was unaware of any order.

The Premier reiterates that it is a matter for the directorate of the National Railways and not the Government. He says:

"I have your letter of the 20th instant. The action taken by the directorate of the Canadian National Railways was in no sense taken at the instance of or by any information from the Government. The directorate took the view that this was a matter within their purview only, as directors."

#### HAIR RAISING.

Customer: Why do you keep telling me all these horrible murder stories?

Barber: Well, you see, sir, I find they helps me a lot by making you hair stand on end!

## 700 Railroad Delegates at Y.M.C.A. Conference

Seven hundred delegates, representing the railway officials and employees of the United States, Canada, Mexico, India, China, and Czecho-Slovakia and other nations were in attendance at the fifteenth international conference of the railroad department of the Young Men's Christian Association at Richmond, Virginia, November 18-21.

Canadian railways were represented by Fred Hand, locomotive engineer, C. P. Railway, Chapleau, Ontario, and Hugh Allen, machinist, C. N. Railway, Caprocal, Ontario.

There were also delegates representing the Railroad Young Men's Christian Associations on the C. P. R., Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern Railway.

Dr. John R. Mott, Hon. W. Davis, the Governor of Virginia, the Mayor of Richmond, leading railway officials, labor men and prominent Y. M. C. A. secretaries were among the speakers.

The religious programme of the Y. M. C. A. was given special emphasis throughout the conference and a closer co-operation urged between officials, employees, railroad Y. M. C. A.'s and other agencies in building up the morale of officials and employees on railroads and removing the causes that contribute to immoral influences.

Firemen, shopmen, operators and other employees spoke from the platform with the governor, mayor, presidents and general managers of the great railway systems, discussing problems of mutual concern to all present.

It was voted to hold another conference of the Railroad Department of the Young Men's Christian Association at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1922. It was also voted to follow the plan of the past few years and conduct an international campaign for new members in May, 1921.

The reports show that the Association is growing in influence and popularity, the number of members has been doubled since the last conference, the total now being more than 145,000.

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# Construction of the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1

In last issue a summary was given of the excellent work of the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 during the two years of its existence. Some readers have suggested that if the details of construction and objects of the Board were better known, ideas might be taken from them for discussion or formation of councils of adjustment in other occupations. The details referred to are here reproduced from the official statement of the Board:

ON July 26th, 1918, in response to a request made by the Dominion Government through the then Acting Minister of Labor, Hon. Senator G. D. Robertson, officials representative of the various Railways in Canada, and Vice-Presidents and General Chairmen from practically all lines in Canada for:

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers,  
The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen,  
The Order of Railway Conductors,  
The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen,  
The Order of Railroad Telegraphers,  
The International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees

met at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal. Senator G. D. Robertson, acting as Chairman, explained that the purpose for the call of the meeting was to arrive at an understanding as to the methods to be adopted for the application of the provisions of General Order No. 27 of the Director General of the United States Railroad Administration, to the Railways of Canada, and to also consider and, if possible, arrange for, some agreement whereby all differences arising between the Railways and the Employees concerned could be disposed of in a mutually satisfactory manner.

General questions relative to the application of the provisions of General Order No. 27, and other matters of mutual concern to the Railway Companies, their Employees and the Canadian people, were discussed at the meeting of July 26th, the general concensus of opinion, both from the viewpoint of those in charge of the Railways and those representing the Employees, being that some tribunal could and should be created to which all differences not otherwise disposed of between the Railways and their Employees could be referred for decision.

On July 27th, 1918, a Joint Committee, representing the Railways and the Employees' Organizations, met and prepared a tentative draft of a Memorandum of Agreement for the above purpose, such draft being in line with the terms of General Order No. 13 of the United States Railroad Administration, under which Railway Board of Adjustment

No. 1 at Washington had been instituted some months previously, the only difference in the draft as proposed being that the language was made applicable as a mutual agreement between the Canadian Railway War Board and the Chief Executives of the six Organizations, parties to the proposed agreement.

After the preparation of the Memorandum of Agreement, and its submission to and adoption by the representatives of the employees in conference, a few days' adjournment was taken in order that the Railway War Board might submit the tentative draft of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement to its member Roads for consideration and endorsement, if approved, and so that the approval of the Chief Executives of the Organizations might also be secured.

On August 7th, 1918, a further meeting was held between the Administrative Committee of the Canadian Railway War Board and the Vice-Presidents, or other representatives, of the Organizations specified, and on the same date the following Memorandum of Agreement was adopted and signed by the Canadian Railway War Board and by the Chief Executives of the Organizations, parties to the Agreement.

The Memorandum of Agreement as signed on August 7th, 1918, reads as follows:

Memorandum of Agreement made between the Canadian Railway War Board, acting for the Railways of Canada, members thereof, of the one Part; and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the Order of Railway Conductors, the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, and the International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, acting for the said classes of employees on the said railways; of the other Part.

Whereas the parties hereto in united desire to avoid disputes or misunderstandings which would tend to lessen the efficiency of transportation service in Canada during the War have resolved upon the appointment of a Board composed of members to be selected as herein-after prescribed, which shall have full power and authority to determine all differences which may arise between any of the said railways and any of the classes of its employees

above mentioned and which shall not be promptly adjusted between the officers and employees of the railway concerned; including the interpretation or application of wage schedules or agreements, and the application to the Railways of Canada of General Order No. 27 of the Director General of the United States Railroad Administration; with authority to make such amendments or additions in line with such amendments or additions as may be made thereto for the railroads in the United States as may be necessary, having due regard to the rights of the several classes of employees and of the railways respectively.

Now therefore it is agreed by and between the parties as follows:

1. There shall be at once created a Board to be known as Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1, to consist of twelve members, six to be selected by the Canadian Railway War Board, and compensated by the Railways, and six by the Executive Officers of the Organizations of Employees hereinbefore named, and compensated by such Organizations.

2. The Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 shall meet in the City of Montreal within fifteen days after the selection of its members and select a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, who shall be members of the Board. The Chairman or Vice-Chairman will preside at meetings of the Board, and both will be required to vote upon the adoption of all decisions by the Board.

3. The Board shall meet regularly, at stated times each month, and continue in session until all matters before it are considered.

4. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, all meetings of the Board shall be held in the City of Montreal; provided, that the Board shall have authority to empower two or more of its members to conduct hearings and pass upon controversies when properly submitted at any place designated by the Board; provided, further, that such division of the Board will not be authorized to make final decision. All decisions shall be made, approved or ratified by the Board as herein provided.

5. Should a vacancy occur in the Board for any cause such vacancy shall be immediately filled by the same appointive authority which made the original selection.

6. The Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 shall render decisions on all matters of controversy arising from interpretations of wage agreements and other matters in dispute as provided in the preamble hereof, and when properly submitted to the Board.

7. Wages and hours established by General Order No. 27 of the Director General of the United States Railroad Administration and amendments thereto shall be incorporated into existing agreements on the several railways, and should differences arise between the management and the employees on any of the railways as to such incorporation, such questions of differences shall be decided by the Canadian Railway



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Board of Adjustment No. 1 when properly presented thereto.

8. Personal grievances or controversies arising under interpretations of wage agreements, and all other disputes arising or now properly pending between officials of a railway and its employees covered by this understanding will be handled in their usual manner by general committees of the employees up to and including the chief operating officer of the railway (or some one officially designated by him) when if an agreement is not reached, the Chairman of the General Committee of employees may refer the matter to the Executive Officer of the Organization concerned, and if the contention of the employees' committee is approved by such executive officer of the Organization concerned shall refer the matter, with all supporting papers, to Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1, which Board shall promptly hear and decide the case, giving due notice to the chief operating officer of the Railway interested and to the executive officer of the Organization concerned of the time set for hearing.

9. No matter will be considered by the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 unless officially

referred to it in the manner herein prescribed, provided, however, that no case having origin in circumstances occurring prior to the date hereof shall be referred to the Board except those arising out of the application of the said General Order No. 27, or arising out of disputes properly pending at the date of this agreement as mentioned in Clause Eight.

10. In hearings before the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 in matters properly submitted for its consideration, the railway shall be represented by such person or persons as may be designated by the chief operating officer, and the employees shall be represented by such person or persons as may be designated by the executive officers of the Organizations concerned.

11. All clerical and office expenses will be borne equally by the Canadian Railway War Board and the Organizations above mentioned. The Railway directly concerned and the Organization involved in a hearing will, respectively, assume any expense incurred in presenting a case.

12. In each case an effort should be made to present a joint concrete statement of the facts as to any controversies, but the Board is fully authorized to require information in addition to the concrete statement of facts, and may call upon the chief operating officer of the Railway or the executive officer of the Organization concerned for additional evidence, either oral or written.

13. All decisions of Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 shall be approved by a majority vote of all members of the Board.

14. After a matter has been considered by the Board, and in the event a majority vote cannot be obtained, then any six members of the Board may elect to refer the matter upon which no decision has been reached to a referee to be unanimously agreed upon by the Board, and in failure to agree, application shall be made to the Governor-General-in-Council for appointment of a referee whose decision shall be final.

15. The Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 shall keep a complete and accurate record of all matters submitted for its consideration and of all decisions made by the Board.

16. A report of all cases decided, including the decisions, will be filed with the Canadian Railway War Board, and with the chief operating officer of the Railway affected and with the executive officer of the Organization concerned.

17. The Canadian Railway War Board further agrees that the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 shall have like authority to determine differences between any of the railways represented herein and any other classes of employees of such railways who may request and consent to submitting differences to the Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1, and to agree that the decision of the said

Board of Adjustment shall be final.

18. This agreement shall remain in full force and effect during the period of the present war, and thereafter, unless the Canadian Railway War Board, on the one hand, as representing the Railways, or a majority of the executive officers of the Organizations, on the other hand, as representing the employees, shall desire to terminate the same, which can, in these circumstances, be done on thirty days' formal notice.

Signed on behalf of the above named parties this Seventh day of August, A.D. 1918.

The Canadian Railway War Board: By U. E. Gillen, Chairman, (by S. R. Payne); W. M. Neal, General Secretary.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers: W. S. Stone, Grand Chief Engineer; by Ash Kennedy, Assistant Grand Chief Engineer.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen: Timothy Shea, Acting President; by Geo. K. Wark, Vice-President.

The Order of Railway Conductors: A. B. Garretson, President; by S. N. Berry, Vice-President.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen: W. G. Lee, President; by James Murdock, Vice-President.

The Order of Railroad Telegraphers: J. M. Mein, Deputy President.

The International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees: A. E. Barker, President; by W. V. Turnbull, Vice-President.

Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement the following named members were appointed to the Board: Mr. S. N. Berry, Vice-President, Order of Railway Conductors; Mr. F. P. Brady, General Manager Eastern Lines, Canadian National Railways; Mr. Wm. Dorey, General Chairman, International Brotherhood Maintenance of Way Employees; Mr. U. E. Gillen, Vice-President, Grand Trunk Railway System; Mr. Geo. Hodge, Assistant to Vice-President, Eastern Lines, Canadian Pacific Railway; Mr. A. J. Hills, Assistant to President, Canadian National Railways; Mr. S. J. Hungerford, Assistant Vice-President, Canadian National Railways; Mr. Ash Kennedy, Assistant Grand Chief Engineer, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; Mr. A. D. MacTier, Vice-President Eastern Lines, Canadian Pacific Railway; Mr. J. M. Mein, Deputy President, Order of Railroad Trainmen; Mr. G. K. Quirk, Vice-President, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

Messrs. Gillen and Hungerford have since resigned from the Board and have been replaced by Mr. G. C. Jones, Assistant to President, Grand Trunk Railway, and Mr. W. H. Sample, Superintendent Motive Power and Car Department, Grand Trunk Railway.

During the two years ending August 31st, 1920, the Board has been in session 86 days to deal with the cases submitted to it.

It is apparent that misunderstanding still exists in the minds of some regarding the position of this Board, as independent of the Rail-

way Association of Canada (formerly the Canadian Railway War Board), although this matter was dealt with in a circular issued by the Board, dated October 17th, 1918, reading in part as follows:

"It seems desirable to point out at this time that the body known as Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 should not in any way be confused with the Canadian Railway War Board.

"The Canadian Railway War Board is an association of the Canadian Railways through which joint action is taken in connection with important transportation matters affecting the operation of Canadian Railways. It is composed of Railway Officers who represent and act for practically all lines in Canada.

"Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1 is a body of twelve, composed of six Railway Officers and six Representatives of the following Railway Brotherhoods, viz.:

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers,  
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen,  
Order of Railway Conductors,  
Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen,

Order of Railroad Telegraphers,  
International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees,

"As the War Board takes joint action for all railways, the representatives of the Railways on

Board of Adjustment No. 1 were selected by the War Board from the official staff of the Railways. The Board having been so constituted no actual connection remained between the War Board and Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1. . . . The function of Board of Adjustment No. 1 is to settle all disputes that arise between the Railways and their employees who are members of the Brotherhoods named."

The accompanying condensed statement of the cases which have come before the Board for consideration, (this was deal with in last week's Railroader), and of the decisions rendered in regard to them, as well as the financial statement covering the period the Board has been in existence, are issued as a matter of record and for the information of all interested or concerned.

Copies of decisions in individual cases, giving in detail the facts and conditions involved, may be had on application to the Secretary of the Board, Mr. R. Chapple, 263 St. James Street, Montreal.

(Sgd.) S. N. BERRY,

Chairman

(Sgd.) GEO. HODGE,

Vice-Chairman

#### LUCKY RESPITE

"Did that heckler annoy you?"  
"Not a bit," replied Senator Sorgum. "The argument I was following up was getting a little bit complicated for me, and I was rather glad of an opportunity to turn my end of it over to the police."—Washington Star.

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## A Passing Look at Bordeaux Jail

Following is a report of a visit to Bordeaux Jail, under auspices of Dependency and Delinquency Division, Montreal Council of Social Agencies:

Acting upon a resolution passed at a meeting of this Division held on October 19th, 1920, a visit was made to Bordeaux Jail with a view of ascertaining general conditions. The visitors were John Kidman (Canadian Prisoners' Welfare Association) and Kennedy Crone (Managing Editor, Canadian Railroader, and delegate to the Allied Printing Trades Council).

The visit was made on Saturday forenoon, November 13th.

The Governor, Capt. Landriault, knew both of the visitors personally. He personally conducted the visitors over the building.

When Capt. Landriault was appointed in 1913, he was drill instructor of the Montreal Police force, and according to a statement made in The Gazette of July 29th of that year, made by Sheriff Lemieux, he was under instructions to institute and enforce a rigid military system of discipline.

As to the building, which was completed in 1912, it is a great improvement upon the old Montreal jail in respect of cleanliness, cubic space in cells, ventilation, sanitation, light and general arrangements for both guards and prisoners. From the jailers' standpoint the efficient mechanical arrangement are all that could be desired, as all the cells can be seen and controlled from a central platform which stands in relation to the institution as does the captain's bridge to a ship. This jail, built by the Provincial Government, was originally contracted for at \$750,000 and ultimately cost nearly 3,000,000.

**FARM LAND:** Adjacent to the jail is a farm of 190 acres, on which about one-third of the inmates can be placed at certain seasons. Crops produced include potatoes, vegetables, oats, etc., sufficient for the establishment. There have been two or three attempts at escape on the farm.

**JAIL WALLS:** The jail is surrounded by two walls, the outer one being 32 feet high and the inner one 16 feet high.

**SHOPS and LABOR:** There are a number of workshops similar to those found in Kingston penitentiary. They include lathe and blacksmith's, carpentry, shoe, tailoring and laundry, and in addition, men are employed in the power plant, the kitchen and bakery, also in the garage and stables. At the time of the visit there were practically no men in the workshops, and such men as were seen working were doing "chores," but products of the shops, such as carpentry work, shoes and garments, were seen. The goods manufactured are for Government institutions only.

**THE CELLS:** These were more spacious than exist in many similar institutions; they appeared cleanly and were provided with sanitary conveniences and water. Only a few were occupied, and the prisoners, being questioned, said they were either Jews — who were observing Sabbath — or elderly or sick men, one being a colored man who told the Governor his feet were too sore to work. Another was an old man, incapable of work, who was reading studiously.

The two death cells were still more roomy, and the occupant of one who was seen, appeared to be quite at ease, having a book in hand.

**PUNISHMENT CELLS:** Down in the basement were seen the black cells where refractory prisoners are

placed. One of the visitors sampled a cell and found that it was almost without light, the only rays of light being from a small aperture at the foot of the door. There were far too many of these cells, about a dozen, but none were occupied at the time. The Governor stated that punishments such as tying weights to men's limbs, had been abolished. These punishment cells were also damp, the walls indicating this.

**PHYSICAL and MENTAL RECREATION:** No games are permitted, and the only physical exercise consists of the ordinary day's work. Conversation is not encouraged in work, but is not absolutely vetoed. Reading is permitted in the cells, but the supply of books is left to voluntary effort. A library of one hundred books was seen, both English and French books, which had been furnished by the Canadian Prisoners' Welfare Association about three years ago. Each prisoner is allowed one book weekly, and the Chaplain has charge of the library. The Governor intimated that he would not oppose a picture show.

**THE KITCHEN:** The diet includes meat only three times a week, and for the rest is made up of porridge, bread and vegetables. The porridge seen in the coppers did not impress one as being thick enough.

**THE HOSPITAL:** The hospital ward was ample and apparently comfortable. The beds were not in cells as in some of the penitentiaries. Patients were reading or playing table games. "When a man is sick we forget that he is a prisoner," remarked the Governor.

**CHAPELS:** The Protestant chapel is an excellent hall, with organ, pulpit and proper equipment, also with bright windows, which enable the prisoner to forget that he is such, as far as externals go. There is service every Sunday morning, and there are also occasional Saturday afternoon meetings conducted by visiting clergy or missionaries.

The Roman Catholics are not so well off, their chapel being above the central "captain's bridge" already referred to, and the worshippers sit in galleries above the four corridors branching out, which gives them a vista over the corridors with their rows of cells at the same time as they see the priest officiating at the altar. There is therefore less external atmosphere of worship for them than in the Protestant chapel.

**PAROLE:** Five days in the month, or 60 days in the year, are deducted from sentences if there is good behavior, and there is also a possibility of special pardon on the advice of the Dominion Parole Officer.

Men are released every day, except Sundays and public holidays, and confinement is curtailed to their advantage to suit these days. On being released, they are escorted to Bordeaux, C.P.R. station, and provided with railroad ticket to Montreal. If they entered jail with clothing unsuitable at time of release, or without hat, collar and tie—as sometimes happens after a drunken fight—they are provided with such clothing as is on hand. There is no Government supply, but generally there are left-overs from deceased or other prisoners, also contributions by the Salvation Army. Cases have been reported, however, in which men have left unsuitably clad, and the Governor admitted that this might have happened.

It was within the knowledge of the visitors that the Salvation Army send a representative in the middle of the week, who obtains a list of all men to be released within the ensuing week, and distributes cards with the address of the Chatham St. industrial home; but the Governor seemed to have very little knowledge of the voluntary outside agencies and their doings.

**REMAND PRISONERS:** The only

difference between prisoners under remand awaiting trial and those under sentence, is that they are separated and the former are not compelled to work. At present there is no system of payment for labor, but if there were, it would mean that the man under remand would gain nothing. Usually these men work, as it allows more exercise and mixing with other men.

**NUMBER OF INMATES:** The Bordeaux Jail can accommodate about 600 prisoners, but since the war the number has generally been about 500, and at the time of visitation the number stood at 470. It was understood that a rather large proportion of the younger inmates were dope fiends.

**GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:** Manifestly a visit of two hours is not sufficient to more than glance at externals and derive superficial impressions.

As to the institution in general, it is apparently clean and fairly healthy, and suicides in it are less than they were in the old jail.

If recommendations were at any time to be made to the Provincial authorities, we would suggest, among others, the following:

That physical exercise, in the form of games, should be allowed for well-behaved prisoners.

That there should be some mental recreation, such as would be offered by educational lectures and concerts.

That there should be an outside visitation committee which would have fuller privileges than the occasional visitor.

That the food of the prisoners should be a little more ample.

That the cellular confinement should be reduced, especially over the week-end and public holidays.

That a system of payment of labor should be studied, particularly with a view to reducing the hardships of innocent dependents.

That enquiry should be made into the number of men and women who are jailed in lieu of being unable to pay fines, also in lieu of being unable to furnish bail and who are subsequently released without conviction.

That there should be enquiry as to provision for primary instruction of illiterates.

That there should be enquiry as to how many inmates at a given time, were sentenced without either legal help or advice from the Salvation Army probation officers.

It will be seen that some of these points raised touch the Police and Recorders' Courts rather than the jail, and in our opinion any enquiry made into jail conditions should also include the working out of the lower criminal courts in the city and province.

(Signed) JOHN KIDMAN,  
Vice-Chairman, D. & D. Division &  
Hon. Sec. Can. Prisoners' Welfare Association.

KENNEDY CRONE,  
Managing Editor, The Canadian Railroader.  
November 27th, 1920.

Bridgeburg, Ont., Trades and Labor Council is considering the nomination of a set of candidates in the municipal elections.

# Loew's

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# Land and Land Values

(By A. L. SMITH, Montreal.)

LAND values add no real wealth to the riches of the community. You can raise a small area of land to the value of millions with one stroke of the pen, which is often done. But the quantity and the quality of the products of Labor or what human being needs, which is the only wealth, is the same as before. The available capital in the banks will be the same as before, the demand for its use will be the same as before, no merchant would have more goods on his shelves than before, no factory wheel would be turning that was not turning before, no increase in the bounties of nature so necessary to sustain the race would take place, nothing would be added to the means of enjoyment or recreation of the lives of the masses. On the contrary it has a direct tendency to curtail all these.

What, then, is the so-called wealth whereby people of humble circumstances in a short time become millionaires? It is a privilege granted by the community to certain land owners to collect exorbitant tribute for the use of their land by way of taxes, interest or rent, of course, being in turn collected from the masses by way of increase in the prices of all commodities, thus directly causing high cost of living on the one hand and, as I said, fabulous fortunes on the other. If then it is detrimental rather than beneficial to the community at large, how can we effect a cure? Now, there is only one way to cure a disease and that is to remove the cause. The growth of land values is measured precisely by the benefits that a growing community confers on the owners of land. It is purely a created community value, and as such belongs to the community and should be taken by the community to support its own many and precious needs. Now, I have said that land values are not real wealth, and the taking of them by the city or town would not make them so, but it would remove all other sources of taxation from the shoulders of capital and labor, the city finding its own created resources ample for all its needs. The benefits thus conferred on capital, and more especially on labor, can hardly be fathomed at first thought, though it does not by any means end here.

It would prevent the holding of land both in the city and town for indefinite periods in order to benefit by these community values, as the community taking these values for its own support would, of course, make it unprofitable to the individual holder. It would thus force into use all lands now held for private gain, thus cheapening the land and allowing the masses the benefits of cultivating them or building upon them. Let me say here that cheap or free land would be the greatest blessing that could possibly be con-

firmed upon the race at the present time, and no other law that can be enacted by any government can ever take its place. The Creator did confer this blessing on his creatures at one time, but it has been removed. I wish further to prove that a rise in the price of land, both in the rural districts and cities, instead of being added wealth is simply a further burden to be borne by labor.

Let me give you a true illustration. A corner lot in this city is sold for half a million dollars more than owner paid for it a few years previous. The gorgeous display of headlines in the press the following day, the sympathetic biography of the great man who created this value in so short a time, his great usefulness to the community, etc., is apt to convince you that the city is that much richer than it was before the sale took place. Now let us see how this works out. A departmental store is built on this corner. The man who conducts this store, after paying all expenses incidental to a large business, pays rent sufficient to net the proprietor say 8 per cent. on the total cost of land and buildings. This half million, of course, is included, which means that the storekeeper must add to the price of his goods sufficient to pay dividends on this unearned increment. Thus we see that the customers of the store pay this extra dividend in increased price of things bought. The storekeeper pays in increased rent what the proprietor pays the man who holds the mortgage. Here we have a direct avenue from the pockets of the workingman to the pockets of the millionaire.

Now, it is perfectly plain that the public would benefit just to the extent that land values are done away with, since it is only mythical wealth, and as I said before, a mortgage on capital and labor.

We need not go far away from our own city to see the connection between high price of land and high cost of living.

Now I wish to make clear that the only wealth is the product of labor and land. Look about you and point to one article that is not created by labor and land, and if you find one, I have yet something to learn. If you are convinced on this point, however, your conviction of the necessity of free land and free labor must follow as the only agency that we may look to for relief, if not a cure, for the present condition of the masses the world over.

This can be brought about by the adoption of the single tax, sometimes known as the tax on land values.

The single tax, however, is the most appropriate manner as it conveys just the exact meaning of its great author, Henry George. It means the taxing of the one single article for the raising of the revenue of the country.

It means the removing of all taxes on all products of labor. The cost of living would thus be reduced to the amount of the taxes and the profits thereon (on taxes), I may say that the ordinary citizen would be dumbfounded if he once realized the magnitude of this amount which he regularly has to pay.

This policy has the opposite effect, however, regarding land. It would decrease its value much more than the tax, as it would discourage

if not entirely prevent its holding for speculative purposes. Now let any one fathom for himself the change brought about by a large reduction in the price of the necessities of life; cheap and in many cases free land, the replacing of the hovels in our slums by large, clean, roomy untaxed houses, without the lowering of wages and in many cases raising them, and you have in a nutshell what we expect from the adoption of the single tax.



CAN HE COME DOWN GRACEFULLY?

—Morris, in Adams Service.

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GEORGE PIERCE, Editor

KENNEDY CRONE, Managing Editor

## Menace to Constitution!

RECENT press despatches from Toronto state that there has been formed in that city an organization known as the "British Representation League," the aim and object of which is "to educate the people against the proposal to induce Proportional Representation in the Province of Ontario." The chairman of this body we are told is Mr. J. R. McNichol, who has given it as his opinion that Proportional Representation is "a menace to the British constitution." Among other interesting pronouncements on the subject Mr. McNichol stated that: "Under Proportional Representation this is what would happen. There are quite a number of persons in Toronto who favor the single taxation idea, but there are not enough in any one riding in the city to elect a representative to Parliament. But under the Proportional Representation system they would all get together and 'plump' on one man and elect him."

"Proportional Representation," says Mr. H. G. Wells, "is the carefully worked out right way to do something that hitherto we have been doing in the wrong way. . . . It takes at least ten minutes to understand it and that is too much for their (its opponents') plain straightforward souls." There are indications that Mr. McNichol has not given it this ten minutes study or he would scarcely be found voicing one of the good points of the system under the mistaken idea that it was a bad one. But that is what he does.

For he tells us that under Proportional Representation a body of voters who had the misfortune to be scattered in several ridings could unite their votes and 'plump' for the man they wanted. Exactly. And thus Proportional Representation would give them a right which is meantime denied them. If there is any considerable body of properly qualified voters distributed over several ridings whose views may be advanced or uncommon why should they be barred from representation in the legislature? Mr. McNichol instances single taxers. Is there any evidence that single taxers are wild and woolly persons who cannot be entrusted to elect a representative? If so the proper course would be to disenfranchise them. No matter what other people may think of certain theories and political beliefs if the advocates of such theories and beliefs are to be found in sufficient numbers on the voters' list they are clearly entitled to be represented by the person of their choice — else the term "Popular Government" ceases to have any real meaning whatever.

Apparently Mr. McNichol pins his faith to suppression. If you cannot bring your political ideas into line with those of the great "parties" (or rather into line with the parties' lack of

ideas) you are to be regarded as a kind of social pariah or electoral outcast. And if the voting power of yourself and such as share your views is rendered impotent by antiquated electioneering procedure such a state of things is highly satisfactory and should be preserved, lest by allowing you the privilege accorded to the good muddle-headed rank-and-file party man you prove a menace to the British Constitution. All of which is very wonderful and very mysterious.

The British Constitution is a much tougher thing than Mr. McNichol seems to suppose. It has weathered many storms; it will weather many more. And it is quite a mistake to imagine that it will be endangered by original ideas or "carefully worked out right ways" of doing things. On the contrary, its worst enemies in these times are the reactionary, the hide-bound party man, and the disciple of repression and sitting tight.

—George Daniels.

## A Tale of Two Cities

A PRELIMINARY statement of the Department of Statistics, Ottawa, gives the following information regarding the industries of the two principal cities of the Dominion:

	Montreal.	Toronto.
No. of establishments . . . . .	2,375	2,835
Capital invested . . . . .	\$468,401,480	\$392,945,178
No. of employees . . . . .	157,878	106,128
Salaries and wages . . . . .	\$110,196,219	\$105,509,698
Cost of materials . . . . .	\$291,973,466	\$266,580,781
Value of products . . . . .	\$551,814,695	\$506,429,283

These statistics offer some interesting studies in averages. Taking the average of the salaries and wages combined we get the following average yearly earnings:

Montreal . . . . .	\$697
Toronto . . . . .	994

Deducting the cost of material from the total value of the product we find that the value added by the manufacturing process works out for each employee at:

Montreal . . . . .	\$1,456
Toronto . . . . .	2,260

Including the cost of material, with the value added by the manufacturing process, the total value per employee works out at: Montreal . . . . . \$3,495

Toronto . . . . .	4,771
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These figures suggest that the manufacturing industries of Toronto are more efficient from the point of view of production, and that they treat their employees better from the point of view of pay. At the same time they show that, relatively, the average employee in Toronto is not in as good a position as the average employee in Montreal. If the Toronto employee receives more money he has to work harder or longer; at any rate, while the Toronto employee obtains 44 per cent. of the value he helps to create through the manufacturing process, the Montreal employee obtains 48 per cent., or 4 per cent. more. That at any rate follows from the Ottawa statistics. But it should be noted that comparisons of this character are not conclusive of the relative positions of Montreal and Toronto as industrial centres, for the reason that the industries of the two cities are probably not all of the same character. But in so far as the comparison has any value it shows that the higher the wages the manufacturer pays the greater the results he obtains; that the productive capacity of the Toronto employee is \$1,276 in excess of the Montreal employee, though the average wage of the former is only \$297 greater than the average wage of the latter.

—Colin McKay.

## Immigration Fiddlery

A CCORDING to a recent news despatch from London, a proposal is likely to be made by W. C. Noxon, head of the overseas branch of the Canadian Trade and Commerce Department, that a Canadian trade council shall be established in London, of which the high commissioner will, perhaps, be the first president, while various paid officials from Canada will form the executive. Mr. Noxon argues that "the far-reaching and favorable effect of a concrete organization embodying the commercial, industrial and social interests of the Dominion would certainly be effective."

There is, perhaps, no part of the Government administration which so much requires looking into as this overseas representation of Canada. Canada has a high commissioner in London, a political appointment, and each—or at least several—of the provinces has also a representative known as agent-general. These latter gentlemen are invariably politicians also, and a large part of their duties consists of attendance at luncheons and dinners

and garden parties. In the meantime the ordinary working man or farm helper in England who wants to get information about Canada, often has a difficult time in procuring it. These offices are open generally between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., and apparently it has never occurred to any overseas agency in London that it might be well to have an open evening once or twice a week, so that the working man could drop in and hear about Canada.

Moreover, what is wanted in England is someone representing labor and employees' interests generally, who would be ready to discuss with an employee what his chances are likely to be worth in the new land, what it will cost his "missus" to run the weekly bill, what are the educational arrangements and obligations for his children, and so forth.

It might be that if a representative of labor were sent over to the Old Country he would also see that something was done which would put an end to the abominable system of allowing people to be shipped over here only to be rejected by Canadian immigration officers; for every year sees some heart-rending scenes at Quebec, of families who have sold up and liquidated all that they possessed in order to come here; who have been allowed to book passage and who are then refused admission and are sent back, to be dumped in the old land, minus home, minus employment and any means to live on. Anyone who had sympathy with these people, would surely be able to devise some system whereby it will either be impossible to ship such people over, or impossible to reject them if they obtain passage.

Apparently some of these good folk who come over are not given any plain advice about distances and costs of travel. A case came to the notice of the writer recently of a family of country people who reached Montreal with two pounds—ten dollars—over and above their disbursements, and they wanted to get to Saskatchewan. They had railroad tickets, but were dumped in Montreal for twelve hours and also had to provide their own food on a three day journey. Happily for them, their case came before the immigration chaplain, who gave them shelter and food at the Government buildings. But it will be seen that there is much to be done on behalf of the workers overseas who are prospective settlers, and it is for the workers in this country to stretch out the helping hand to them, both here and over there, if possible, in the way indicated. —Caedmon

### The Truth About Facts

IN recent times the managing editor of this paper has been found asking, in his old-fashioned manner, what the big need might be that would assist in overcoming the cussedness of things in general at the present day. Although expressing a graceful willingness to let somebody else point the way he has at the same time hinted that his personal opinion in the matter is that what we need in these times is facts—hard, cold facts. I should like to put myself on record as subscribing to this view. The difficulty is to get the facts to the consumer. The Press is not doing this; but it should be done.

Before making his own suggestion, however, the editor considered briefly several other proposals put forward by various counsellors, to wit: tolerance, patience, truth, and change of spirit. As far as tolerance is concerned it is certainly becoming increasingly difficult to recognize it nowadays. There are so many clever imitations. There is, for instance, the school which, envying the favorable impression created by a display of the genuine article, stimulates a forgiving smile when any person it cordially dislikes is mentioned, and either says compassionately: "Oh yes, poor so and so," or proceeds to damn the person with a measure of faint praise. This is a favorable trick of the professional politician who is often observed to preface his abuse of an opponent with some graceful flattery. It is reckoned to give a kind of veneer of respectability to what follows. The thing is becoming alarmingly common among the members of young men's debating societies, who appear to consider it the very last word in the way of cleverness. Whereas nothing could really be more objectionable or harmful.

Concerning facts, however, they are so often ugly things that in genteel circles it has come to be reckoned bad form to mention them too freely. The fact, for instance, of the manner in which the Canadian national income is distributed, as revealed by the latest available Income Tax Returns, is quite vulgar in its directness. These returns indicate that in Canada only roughly 1 per cent. of the national wage and salary earners are in receipt of incomes of \$1,500 per year or more, that is to say 99 men in every 100 have less than \$125 per month. But why the dickens don't people give free voice to their indignation at such a state of affairs instead of indulging in make-believe and futile talk about tolerance, patience, truth, and change of spirit? They fear the fact; that is all.

Possibly nothing more ironically humorous was ever written than that fairy tale of Hans Andersen's which tells how certain rogues proposed to a King's Chancellor to manufacture a robe for the King of magic cloth, the peculiar quality of which was that only such persons as were truly fitted for their posts could perceive it at all. The offer was accepted. Presently the robe was said to be finished and was brought to the palace. All present, from the King downwards, proceeded (although seeing nothing) to express admiration, both for the texture of the cloth and the beauty of the pattern. To celebrate the occasion the King held a triumphal procession through the streets of the city. The common people had by this time learned of the magic nature of the cloth and they too expressed admiration. Nobody liked to be caught napping. Presently a child said: "He has got nothing on." "Innocent little dear!" said the tolerant, patient, truth-loving, change-of-spirit ones. "But he's got nothing on," said a man presently. "Poor simpleton!" said the same body. "But he's got nothing on," at length cried the whole crowd. The King and his Ministers, however, kept silent and swept in solemn state into the palace. The moral does not require pointing.

"Mr. Spareribs is not so bad," says Blotter, the ledgerkeeper, who has not a cent over at the end of each month after paying expenses. "I don't think he quite understands—he is a good-hearted man. . . ." Blotter mistakes this feeble prattle for magnanimity. "He is all right," corroborates Lading, the shipping clerk, who is quite sure in his heart that he is all wrong. Both, however, make a dignified show of declining to believe that anything is to be gained by denouncing Spareribs and his kin for what they actually are. That is such bad form, you know, it isn't done. They prefer to suffer in silence. And if you tax Spareribs himself in the matter he will generally tell you: "Well, they aren't worth more anyway." One begins to wonder if they really are. They, too, appear to fear the facts. How about it, K. C.?

—George Daniels.

### Big Needs Lower Down

WHILE McGill University is to be congratulated upon raising the very substantial fund of six million dollars to help in its development and extended usefulness, the claim of primary education in this province should not be overlooked. The total expenditure on public instruction in this province is about \$880,000 and that amount represents the chance which the province gives to the children of the ordinary wage-earning parent to gain the very rudiments of education. In Great Britain the older universities and even some of the newer ones are out of reach of any but the well-to-do families, and a university education in that country is largely admitted to be the prescriptive right of the classes. But elementary education is free to all, and there is no reason whatever why the poorest child of the slums, if he is bright, should not receive sufficient education up to sixteen years of age to enable him, if he has the taste for it, to go further in secondary schools and then to the university. It is in the matter of primary education that there is a serious lack in this province. There are hundreds of small boys and girls employed in departmental stores who are unable to spell or write the names of streets when they are making up an invoice or a parcel. It is true that of late there has been an amendment in the factory laws, whereby if a child employed under the age of fourteen is illiterate, he or she is compelled to take evening instruction. It is, however, a doubtful point whether it is fair to a child of that age to allow him or her to serve in a store or factory for eight or nine hours and then compel attendance at an evening school. One would rather see it compulsory on the part of the employer who uses such labor to release the child for two or three hours a day in the day.

The higher education is to be encouraged by all means; but it is not desirable that the nation should be divided into two very opposite sections—the highly educated and the professional minority, and the poor and illiterate majority who constitute the hewers of wood and drawers of water. There is no condition that paves the way for slavery of the industrial character or even to crime, more than that of illiteracy and general mental ignorance. "Every time I see a school opened, I see a jail disappear," was the statement made by the one-time president of the Education Department in England, a statement which might tempt an incursion into another path of thought. Give every lad and every girl a fair chance to acquire the three R's and a few more rudimentary principles of instruction, then leave them to climb their way up higher if they can by the aid of scholarships and bursaries. The only satisfactory university is the one which is the head of an educational ladder, from the lowest rungs of which it is possible for the child of the slum or of the middle class to ascend.

—Caedmon.

# Interfering With Rights

LABOR'S objection to the recent order of President D. B. Hanna, of the Canadian National Railways, dismissing any employee who takes part in politics, is to be placed before Premier Meighen by Tom Moore, president of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, in an interview which is expected to take place this week. The feeling of labor is stated to be that despite the Government's stand that the C.N.R. has been taken out of politics, this order is an interference with the rights of citizenship and as such the Government must take action to have it rescinded.

Scores of resolutions protesting against the order are being received from all parts of the Dominion, and it is expected to furnish material for some interesting discussions at the convention of division number four of the railway employees, which is being held in Toronto this week. Members of this division are very strongly against President Hanna's

is understood that if possible Mr. Moore will demand a clear statement from the Government as to what it proposes to do in regard to President Hanna's order. The Trades and Labor Congress officers take the stand, according to Mr. Moore, that inasmuch as the franchise act clearly defines that every person shall have the right to time off to vote, though he or she may vote against their employers' personal interest, the Government is bound by the principle that every person should have a similar right to take his or her part in the administration of the country, and in the selection of administrators. Acceptance of the Hanna order, according to Mr. Moore, would simply mean that other corporations, if a man sought to run for office and against whom they had any cause for dislike, could pass a rule discharging that man.

Since it is claimed that the Canadian National Railways have been taken out of the hands of any Government department as to management, labor holds that any employee

of that system is entitled to exercise his rights of citizenship to the fullest extent, which includes being a candidate for public office and the holding of public positions if he is elected to them.

Under the present system of administering the civil service, with patronage eliminated by the operation of the civil service commission, Mr. Moore declared he could see no reason why civil servants should not have every right to hold office or to be candidates for public office. "Any other system than that of guaranteeing a man the rights of his full citizenship," he declared, "will simply mean the building up of two classes; one privileged to govern the country and the other prohibited from taking any part in the administration. Then there is no incentive for the latter class to look to constitutional methods for redressing its wrongs, and it will be forced to use the economic weapon."

## TEACHERS SEEK MORE FREEDOM.

Establishment of the teaching profession on a self-governing basis with full partnership is the theme of an important resolution unanimously passed at the annual conference of the National Federation of Class Teachers recently held in England. The teachers seek joint control because they believe that education can not progress satisfactorily until the teacher takes a much fuller share in the control of education than he does at present.

## NOBODY HOME

"Carson is the most absent-minded chap I ever saw."

"What's he been doing now?"

"This morning he thought he had left his watch at home, and then proceeded to take it out of his pocket to see if he had time to go home and get it."

"But he doesn't beat the man who went out of his office and put a card on the door saying he would be back at three o'clock, and finding that he had forgotten something, went back to the office, read the notice on the door, and sat down on the stairs to wait until three o'clock."

## By Special Delivery.

"What are you cutting out of the paper?"

"About a man getting a divorce because his wife went through his pockets."

"What are you going to do with it?"

"Put it in my pocket." — The American Legion Weekly.

## Reason Enough

Johnny: "What makes the new baby at your house cry so much, Tommy?"

Tommy: "It don't cry so very much—and, anyway, if all your teeth were out, your hair off, and your legs so weak you couldn't stand on them, I guess you'd feel like crying yourself." —London Ideas.

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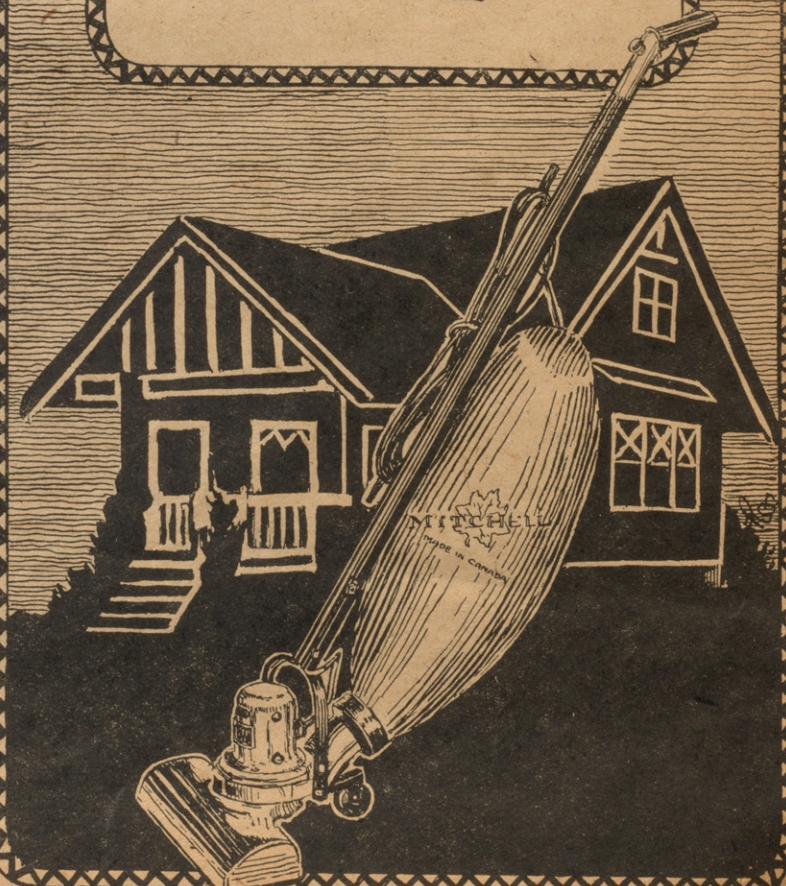
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THE CANADIAN RAILROADER is a carrier and interpreter of the news and views of the common people.

**PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION ADVANCES.**

(Citizen, Ottawa.)

The Montreal charter commission has decided to approve of an amendment to the charter under which the metropolis is managed, calling for the employment of the proportional representation system in all municipal elections in the future. The single transferable vote plan, known as the Hare system, will be used. The clause on nominations and elections, as submitted by the sub-committee on general administration, reads as follows:

"Section I. At all municipal elections for the election of councillors to be held under the authority of this charter, the system of proportional representation by the single transferable vote and based on the Hare system shall be used."

The vote in favor of this amendment was 8 to 1, and the only commissioner who voted nay was evidently unfamiliar with the working of the plan. The success of the Winnipeg experiment in the recent provincial elections was quoted as a reason why Montreal should adopt this progressive method of giving all sections of the voters an opportunity to secure representation in accordance with their numbers.

The example of Montreal, our largest centre of population, and one wherein are more political and racial elements than in any other city in the country, is one that will likely be followed by other communities. The proportional representation system is going ahead on its merits and within a short time should entirely supersede the present unscientific and unsatisfactory plan of electing public officials and so making representative government truly representative.

**OFFN 'EM FOR LIFE.**

Times were hard, and Mrs. Johnson was endeavoring to persuade her lord and master to enter some gainful occupation.

"It's a good job," she maintained. "Fo' and a half dollahs a day—eight hours."

"Who dis man tryin' to thow money at me dat way?"

"Tom Wilson."

"Tom Wilson? No ma'am, somebody else, not me. Ah done wo'k two yeahs in France for dat Wilson fam'ly."—Legion Weekly.

**STRONG POSITION OF BANK OF MONTREAL**

The financial report of the Bank of Montreal for the year ending October 30th becomes available at a somewhat critical moment in the readjustment of financial and industrial conditions in Canada. The report reflects continued prosperity in Canada's premier institution.

The total assets of the Bank stand at \$560,150,812, up from \$545,304,809, at the end of the previous year.

The larger amount of capital which the Bank had at its disposal and the increase in the volume of business handled has resulted in a steady expansion in the earnings of the Bank. The net profits for the year amounted to \$4,033,995, compared with \$3,314,227 a year ago. These profits, added to the balance of Profit and Loss and to the premium obtained on the new stock issued during the year made a total amount available for distribution of \$6,846,850. This amount was appropriated as follows:

Regular dividends and bonus .....	\$2,950,000
Amount credited to First Account .....	2,000,000
War tax on bank note circulation .....	210,000
Reserve for Bank Premises .....	425,000

a total of \$5,595,000, and leaving an amount to be carried forward to Profit and Loss of \$1,251,850.

Cape Breton miners in convention last week rejected by a three-fourths majority the Montreal agreement on wages and working conditions arrived at recently at a conference between the miners' leaders, the company's representatives, and the Department of Labor. In the event of a strike 12,000 men will be affected.



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 KAYSER SILK GLOVES  
 RADIUM HOSIERY**

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**THE  
 Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada**

**Its Only Aim Is The Welfare Of The Masses**

THE people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws, and the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada exists to see to it that the workers by hand and brain are directly represented in the law-making bodies of the Dominion; to find, train, and elect the right men of our own class in order to secure the kind of legislation that will protect and advance the interests of the workers.

It will wage warfare on plutocracy, despotism, economic privileges, and upon all the evil forces which burden the people and rob them of that happiness of living which is their fundamental right.

It is a non-partisan educational and political association, and because of the manner in which it is organized can never become the instrument or plaything of a small group of any class, particularly of wealthy men. The aim is the attainment of true democracy.

**WE PLEDGE OURSELVES:—**

To support all municipal, provincial and federal educational laws where the evident purpose is to raise the standard of education in enlightened and progressive ways; to present truthfully and fearlessly through the medium of Fifth Sunday Meetings and our own press, the "Canadian Railroader", the latest and most important political, social and industrial developments;

To advocate the abolition of property qualifications for the franchise or for election to public office; the adoption of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, and of proportional representation in all forms of public government; universal suffrage for both sexes, on the basis of one person, one vote; the transfer of taxation from improvements, and all products of labor, to land values, incomes and inheritances;

To advocate prison reform, including introduction of the honor and segregation systems, and abolition of contract labor; the enactment and rigid enforcement of child labor laws; pensions for mothers with dependent children; regulation of immigration to prevent lowering of industrial political or social standards; development of the postal savings and parcel post systems; financial and other assistance to farmers through co-operative banks and by other means; government development of co-operative producing and trading associations for the benefit of the consumer;

To advocate extension of workmen's housing schemes and the labor bureausystem; provision of technical education for every willing worker, according to his capacities; more effective inspection of buildings, factories, workshops and mines; minimum wages; a rest period of not less than a day and a half per week for every worker; government insurance of workers against sickness, injury and death; maternity benefits and old-age pensions; better Workmen's Compensation Acts; representation of the workers on all public boards and on boards for the supervision of private enterprises; union labor conditions in all government work; adequate pensions and opportunities for soldiers and their dependents;

To advocate freedom of speech and of the press, and a law compelling all newspapers and periodicals to publish in all issues a complete list of shareholders and bondholders.

"The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" is financed entirely by its members who contribute \$2 a year in membership fees. If a local has been established in your city \$1 remains in the local treasury and the other dollar is sent by the local organization to our Dominion Headquarters, 316 Lagauchetiere St., west, Montreal. In case no local has been established in your community, send the membership fee of \$2 directly to Dominion Headquarters.

The funds accumulating in the Dominion Headquarters are used for political and educational propaganda; the development of the organization; the preparation of pamphlets and leaflets and the financing of the various political campaigns where favorable opportunities develop, to elect our candidates. The Treasurer is under bond and the books are audited by a firm of accountants.

An application blank will be found below. Merely fill out the application blank, buy a postal order for \$2 and send it to Dominion Headquarters. Your membership card will be forwarded by return mail. Join this great organization in the interests of education and clean politics. *To-day is the day and this is the hour. Become a member now.*

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

To the Secretary,

The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada.

General Headquarters, 316 Lagauchetiere Street, West,  
 corner of Beaver Hall Hill, MONTREAL.

I hereby make application for membership in "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" I subscribe and agree to pay while a member, the yearly sum of \$2.00 in advance.

Name .....

Amount Paid \$..... Address.....

Date .....

City .....

Province .....

Make all cheques and money orders payable to "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada."

Official membership card will be mailed from headquarters with a copy of platform, constitution and general rules.

## SIDE-LINES

By KENNEDY CRONE

### JUST BOOKS

SOMETIMES I feel tempted to put on a mask and go a-burgling amongst well-stocked bookshelves.

The mood catches me particularly when I contemplate two small libraries, very small libraries indeed, which are practically the sole book supply of more than twelve hundred children and youths, and which have been read and re-read, and read over again, into the sorriest dilapidation you ever saw. I thought at one time of trying to fix some of the books with strips of glued canvas up the back, but became convinced that only a bookbinder, well learned in his trade, could put them together again, and not even he could supply missing pages.

"Huh! Can't you get us somethin' we haven't read before?" says a boy. "Key! Same old things!" says a girl.

Scott is represented in one of the libraries by the *Lady of the Lake* only. Dickens, Shakespeare, Stevenson, Macaulay, Thackeray, Marryat, Stowe, Reid, Cooper, Aesop, Grimm, Andersen, Carroll, Swift, Irving, Twain, Doyle, Montgomery, Lever, Holmes, Barrie, Kipling, Crockett, Swan, Parkman, Drummond, Caine, are not represented at all, but that is only a glimpse of what the library isn't. The other library is better; not much.

Now and then I have been told that the modern child does not want books. I know better, though it is not easy to prove the extent of the taste when there are no suitable libraries in the city to prove it by except in a few select institutions. Once in a while I come on a person who thinks that children are better without books.

The three public libraries are not available to the mass of children, and in some ways are not even available or suited to the mass of citizens. The Civic Library, for example, is a very fine bookshelf; it badly needs books.

When organized labor stops being too busy struggling for the primary needs of life, maybe it will think of district libraries, of which Montreal seems to require about fifteen at least, easy to get at, well stocked, and conducted by guides and inspirers, not bored counter clerks handling books like packets of washing soda.

One Saturday night I saw children streaming in and out of the Carnegie Library at Smith's Falls, because it was handy, equipped, and run with an idea of encouraging children to read the best books.

Knowing a little about the Westmount Library, and Miss Saxe, the librarian, though I have not seen either, I would say that there again

could be found the interest of many children in books. The fact that most of the book readers in Westmount are from the most prosperous class of homes, and therefore because of their general "culture" might be expected to have a special leaning towards books, means exactly nothing.

I do not like the popular meaning of "culture," as of something arising only from nice lineage and environment, tony schooling and a neatly fashioned and developed taste. A good deal of what has seemed "culture" to me has been in very ordinary homes, often mean homes, apparently specially designed to smother "culture," with trial and discouragement a permanent feature or a frequent visitor. There I have found the finest qualities of heart and mind, homage to great things, scorn for bad things, pity and a willing hand for weak things, frilled with the love of old people and children, the love of trees and flowers and butterflies and sunlight, the love of art and music and books. Always the books, which told so much in easy ways: of things never to be seen, but pictured; of things never to have, but to think of in day-dreams; of things not quite understood, yet keyed with; of reasonings and emotions for those who could not themselves express them; of things that threw a flash of light, that struck a challenge, that built a hope, that inspired a deed, that hammered, it might be, the message—"Up and on, for these plain people around you, flesh of your flesh and bone of your bone!"

Knowing that more ordinary "culture" all my life; born alongside it, bred alongside it, and hoping to die alongside it; and knowing the laid-on, schooled or acquired "culture" only as an onlooker peering in, I like to see the kind I know best included in the term, as it rarely is. Knowing that more ordinary "culture," I know well the love of books in common places, sometimes, truly, a latent love, but that only because books are not easy to get and there is no direction as to what is likely to be interesting, elevating or amusing. The desire of children for books is just an intense outside Westmount and places like it as it is within them.

Ssh! Do you happen to know any crib that a burglar for books would find easy to crack?

### A POLITE SMACKER

"YOU will excuse me, K. C., if I take a smack at you," says a letter-to-the-editor man who uses the pen-name of "Facts." Of course, I will excuse him. It is a new experience to be politely smacked. "You said you were keen on facts," he continues; "well, you badly overshot them when you were writing on the merits of unemployment insurance for emergencies. Let me inform you that you did not know your own trade unionists. Are you aware that the trade unionists in Great Britain

had to be wheedled into accepting it. I quote from the *Westminster Gazette*, which partly explains the situation:

"To-day the Unemployment Insurance Act comes into operation. It increases the number of insured from the four millions of the 1911 Act to 12,000,000, and it provides for benefits of fifteen shillings a week for a period of fifteen weeks in any one year. The trade unions which opposed the bill have come to recognize its benefits when faced, as they are, with a period in which unemployment may be acute. Dr. Macnamara has been able to announce that 148 unions are preparing schemes under which they will be able to administer and to supplement the benefits. The Act is not perfect, but it has the advantage of offering a considerable degree of elasticity. Under it, schemes can be framed by which employers and employed become jointly responsible for the unemployment in a particular trade, and will be both concerned to keep down unemployment so far as possible by increasing output and cheapening goods. The Act at least mitigates the fear of unemployment which, by a perversion of ideas, is one of the real factors in inducing men to ca' canny."

In the first place I would be no more disposed to accept the *Westminster Gazette* as an exponent of labor opinion than I would accept,

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say, the *Wall Street Journal* or the *Montreal Gazette*. In the second place, British trade unionists had more progressive schemes than unemployment insurance, and most of these were embodied in the "Right to Work" Bill, fathered by the British Labor Party, which was, briefly, a plan for providing new state and other work, and spreading and balancing of existing work, with a view to preventing unemployment. The Government did not approve of the Bill and furthered, instead, the plan of unemployment insurance. Labor opposed unemployment insurance under the circumstances because it had something better; failing to get something better, it accepted unemployment insurance as something less than it sought, yet a good thing in an emergency; not exactly a winter's supply of fuel, so to speak, but rather a few pails of coal to go on with. There is nothing in British



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unionism's attitude which is inconsistent with what I wrote. Perhaps, however, I should have said something about that attitude, but how was I to guess that "Facts" would pick up a stray fragment from the Westminster Gazette and jump hastily to a wrong conclusion?

If "Facts" is really interested I will loan him a recent article, "How to Deal With Unemployed," by Arthur Henderson, M.P., Secretary of the British Labor Party, and the Memoranda on International Labor Legislation, by Sidney Webb, which deals with British labor's viewpoint on unemployment.

#### THAT HEARST PAPER.

THE circumstantial tale that William Randolph Hearst intends to start a daily paper in Montreal has gained further currency since I wrote about it a month or so ago. In the interval it has collected to itself a wonderful adornment of detail, which I discount immediately, either as the pure fiction which seems naturally to build itself around any shape of a rumor, or as a deliberate effort to make use of that peculiarity of rumors in an effort to throw the serious enquirer off the track.

It can be taken for granted that the outline of any big plan rarely leaks ahead of its time-table; if it does, it is a misfortune. Only a few persons know of it, and it is of lessened value to them, perhaps of no

value at all, if it becomes public too soon. Premature disclosure may give competitors all the warning they need to offset plans. Quite apart from being a Scot, and naturally disposed (according to the best authorities) to taking things in at one ear and then blocking all the exits, I am sure that if I had the details of a big plan, in the process of development of which I was personally concerned, I would not be writing gaily about them here, and if you had them you would not be giving them to me to write about, would you?

Rumor-bearers claim that the local papers are even more energetic than usual in riddling Hearst. That probably has no relation to a Hearst paper being started here. If it has any relation at all, it is only to a very small angle of the subject.

To my mind, the whole history of the tale hinges upon a local real estate deal which may or may not have been consummated within the past two months. That deal, if it took place, may not be such a fine clue after all. Real estate deals of newspaper proprietors do not necessarily mean new daily papers; they might merely mean a little flutter in a less speculative field than the newspaper field.

To the statement that there is a lot of smoke about this thing and that there is no smoke without fire, I would say that there is such a thing as a smoke screen to keep you from seeing where a fire really is.

Some persons dispose of the Hearst rumor by declaring the impossibility of Hearst obtaining Canadian clientele in view of his reputation as an anti-Britisher. I may dispose of the rumor, but not on that score alone. For one thing, Hearst already has a considerable clientele in Canada. For another thing, while his anti-British policies might not suit many persons, some of his anti-labor policies might suit many persons who put patriotism in their pockets and forget it when they are thinking commercially. For another thing, he can serve up "feature stuff" in such a way that even those who disagree with his editorial policies will still buy his papers. For

another thing, he is well able to capitalize local irritations, notably in municipal affairs, and he would certainly give the other local papers opportunity of showing how popular they were with advertisers and readers.

Say, won't it be amusing a year after this to look back on all this talk about a rumor?



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"The union man is not so cocky des he was just before the election," theng continues, "and in a little while pol wi,

he will be ready to eat out of his boss' hand. Employers are getting 50 per cent. more production out of labor than they were some time ago, and they are getting it for less wages. They will be willing to take less than they are now receiving, and to work harder for it. They have lost their frisky spirit. We can tell them who is running things and they are willing to accept our judgment.

"We should be very happy, indeed, over the outlook, for we have checked a dangerous movement. The worker at last begins to realize where he belongs."

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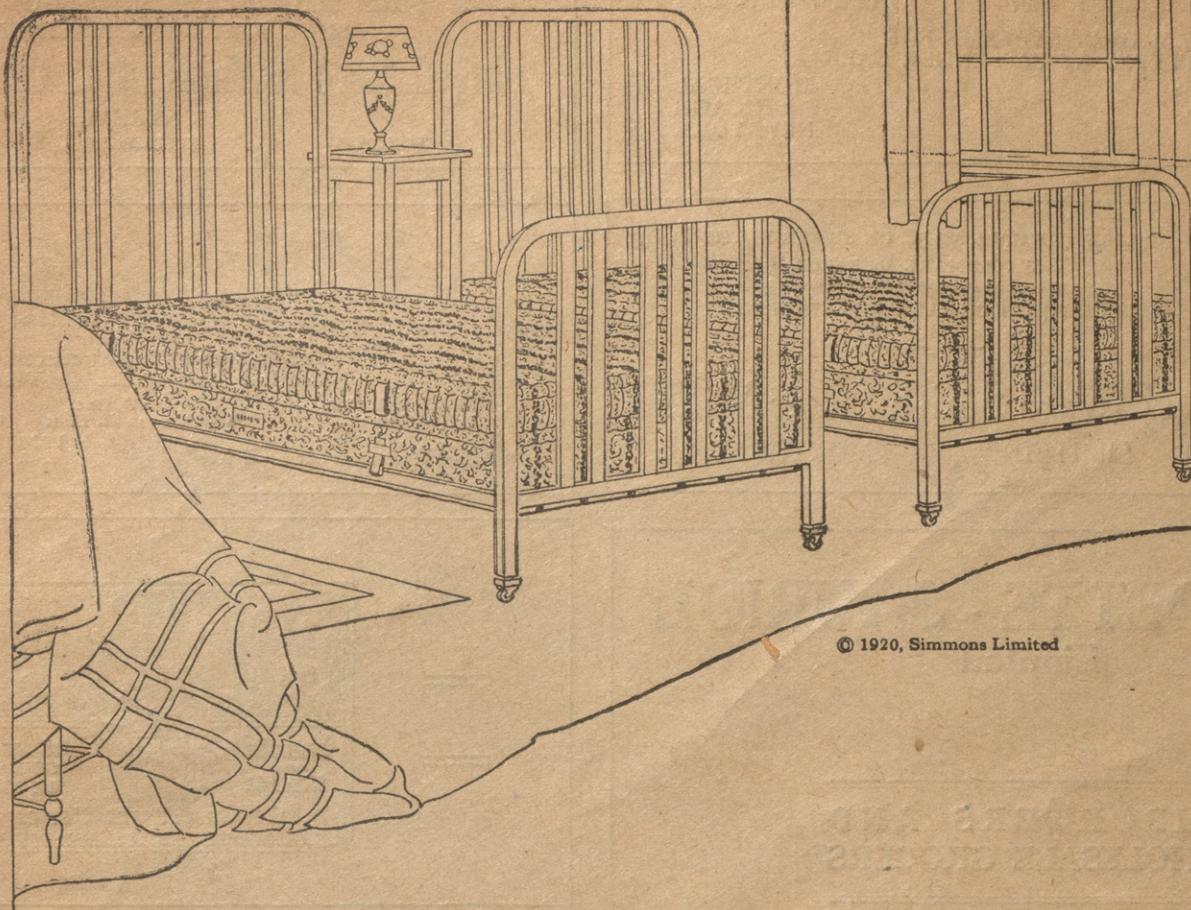
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